

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 TAIPEI 00910 150727Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 /021 W
-----020735 150729Z /13
R 150705Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
TO USDOC WASHDC
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 6423

UNCLAS TAIPEI 0910

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: BEXP, TW
SUBJECT: ROC MEASURES TO INCREASE IMPORTS FROM US:
AUTOMOBILES

REF : (A) USDOC 2551 (B) TAIPEI 704

1. ENGINE DISPLACEMENT IN REFTEL B SHOULD READ 6,000 CC.
BECAUSE THOSE OVER 6,000 CC ARE REGARDED AS BEING AFFORDABLE
ONLY BY THE WEALTHY, NUMBER OF THESE AUTOMOBILES UP FOR BID
WAS LIMITED TO THREE HUNDRED. FOR THOSE UNDER 6,000 CC
ENGINE DISPLACEMENT, THE BIDDING LIMIT WAS 3,700.

2. IMPORT PERMITS OBTAINED BY FRANCHISED DEALERS ARE
ESTIMATED TO BE AS FOLLOWS: FORD, 5 COMPANIES, 335 UNDER
6,000 CC AND 40 OVER 6,000 CC; CHRYSLER-PLYMOUTH-DODGE, 2
COMPANIES, 246 UNDER AND 4 OVER; AMERICAN MOTORS, ONE NEWLY-
ESTABLISHED DEALER, 100 UNDER AND NONE OVER; GENERAL MOTORS,
REPORTEDLY ONLY ONE COMPANY (CHINA UNITED MOTORS), 606
UNDER AND 94 OVER. ESTIMATED TOTALS FOR DEALERS ARE 1,287
UNDER 6,000 CC AND 138 OVER 6,000 CC.

3. TRADING FIRMS HAVE RIGHTS TO ABOUT 1,500 CARS UNDER
6,000 CC AND FROM 40 TO 70 OVER 6,000 CC. HOWEVER,
THERE IS SOME DOUBT AS TO HOW MANY RIGHTS WILL BE
EXERCISED. AS IT IS, THE TRADING COMPANIES ONLY STAND
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TO LOSE THEIR INITIAL DEPOSITS, WHICH WERE EQUIVALENT
TO ABOUT \$500 PER CAR FOR THOSE UNDER 6,000 CC.

4. ACCORDING TO FEB. 15 PRESS REPORT, THUS FAR TEN
FIRMS HAVE EXERCISED THEIR OPTIONS FOR MORE THAN 600
CARS AND DEADLINE FOR EXERCISING OPTIONS IS FEBRUARY 23.

5. INFORMATION FROM NADA MENTIONED IN PARA 2 OF REFTTEL A
WOULD STILL BE USEFUL.
UNGER

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Message Attributes

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